

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community
Positively impacting the Burlington community by addressing
the causes and consequences of substance abuse.
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Dear members of the Burlington Board of Health:

Thank you for considering our request for funding to support youth empowerment activities for middle school youth from Burlington. Not only are young people our future, they are also capable of creating and sustaining important change in the now. Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community is committed to inspiring and empowering local youth to be prevention leaders in our community. Our youth programming is driven by the One Voice Youth Empowerment Model and messaging from the national Above the Influence campaign.

I've included more details about the One Voice Youth Empowerment Model and how we are supporting it in Burlington middle schools and at the Burlington High School as an attachment to my email. This year we will be offering students that been actively involved in our youth prevention groups at Hunt and Edmunds Middle School to attend an amazing youth leadership conference called Youth to Youth International that is hosted annually. This year it will be held July 26-29 at Bryant University, in Rhode Island.

Nationally, Youth to Youth is a recognized leader for engaging youth in positive change. Each summer, they offer a one-of-a-kind conference experience, led by trained teens alongside adults. At the four-day conference, students will meet and befriend drug-free teens from all over the country, develop skills to make positive choices, attend interactive and informative workshops, hear nationally known speakers, develop action plans to create change back home in their schools and communities, learn vital leadership qualities and skills they can use for a lifetime, and have fun!

The cost to attend this 4 day conference is \$425/person. This includes the conference registration, food and housing costs. BPHC is working with other local partners to travel together and share the additional costs for travel. Our goal is to send 7 youth with 2 adult advisors to this opportunity. So, the total cost outside of travel is \$3,825. We appreciate any support the Board of Health can give to help us reach our goal and bring our local youth to this amazing opportunity!

Please feel free to reach out anytime if you need additional information to help make your decision. We will be making our decisions about how many kids we have funding to send to the Youth to Youth Conference by May 31<sup>st</sup>. Thank you!

Warmly, Mariah Sanderson Coalition Director